AMENDED VERSION

IN THE CLAIMS:

SUB E1

D1

5. Twice (Amended) A synthetic nuclease resistant antisense oligodeoxynucleotide for selectively inhibiting human tumor necrosis factor alpha said antisense oligonucleotide comprising: an exon targeting a sequence which flanks at least one splice site said targeting thereby regulating expression of TNF-α.

D2

7. Thrice (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for selectively inhibiting mammalian tumor necrosis factor alpha in a mammal in need of such treatment consisting of

an effective amount of at least one active ingredient a synthetic nuclease resistant antisense oligodeoxynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID No. 4 and SEQ. ID No. 6 in a pharmaceutically physiologically acceptable carrier or diluent.

D3

13. Twice (Amended) A method of selectively regulating mammalian tumor necrosis factor alpha by targeting for treatment a tumor necrosis factor alpha splice region and then specifically modify the region to inhibit the mammalian tumor necrosis factor alpha.

D4

14. Twice (Amended) The method of claim 13 further including administering an effective amount of a synthetic nuclease resistant antisense oligodeoxynucleotide which targets exon sequences flanking donor splice sites.

15. TWICE (Amended) A method of inhibiting tumor necrosis factor alpha by targeting for treatment a tumor necrosis factor alpha splice region thereby inhibiting tumor necrosis factor alpha.

DS

16. TWICE (Amended) The method of claim 15 further including administering an effective amount of a synthetic nuclease resistant antisense oligodeoxynucleotide which targets exon sequences flanking donor splice sites.